

Good Friends Transcend Balls, Boobs and Balki

Here we are, at the last day of classes. This is possibly the very last time Duty will call (unless I lock down a columnist spot for next year), and I really wanted to go out with a bang.



DAVE POVILL
DUTY CALLS

My original idea was to write my own little version of the "Sunscreens" speech by Kurt Vonnegut.

But then I realized that people would stop reading the second their little brains came across that last sentence, because they'd all stop and point out to their neighbors, "This guy's soooo dumb. Kurt Vonnegut didn't even write that speech. God, I'm so way smarter than he is. What's a seven-letter word for anus?"

Also, I realized that most people would not regard what I say as "sound advice" or even as "an interesting perspective."

Most likely, it would just be dismissed as "incoherent ramblings that would suggest homicidal tendencies and a possible obsession with fecal matter." At

least that's what the most recent psych report said. So instead, I tried to field ideas from friends about what you want to read.

Bad idea. I understand that people love midgets, and the tossing of said midgets, but I just can't see why I should devote an entire column to the subject.

Moreover, I would need to clean it up and make it PC ("little people and the forced displacement of said little people") so as to avoid angry knocks on the bottom of my door.

And to quote my mentor Will Kimmey, "If you write about midgets, it'll be a short column." Ha! I guess you had to be there. Actually, I don't think it would have made a difference.

So midgets were out, and I was still left without a column topic. Someone suggested I write about how cool the last day of classes will be.

I agreed that the last day of classes would be pretty frickin' sweet (the Roots' concert, Trader Vic's, etc.), but I think they just wanted me to talk about forcibly displacing little people into the moat at Chi Psi. So I passed again.

Then I started thinking about all the columns I've written before, and all the things I wrote about. I covered teeny-bopper boobs, testosterone-driven media, a frightening trip to the big city, weed and the world's most annoying party.

There had to be more to life than this (although I must admit I covered all the basics).

Then, as I was listening to TLC's "What About Your Friends?" it hit me. The most important part of my life was staring me right in the face every minute of every day. It was time to sit down and have a little one-on-one with the person I love most.

"Dave," I said to myself, "What makes a guy like you tick?" To which I replied, "What the hell does that question mean, anyway?"

Really, I've always wondered what kind of response people expect when they ask that. I think if someone ever asked me that, I'd kick them in the nards just out of principle. Fortunately, it's physically impossible for me to kick myself in the tender parts, so I escaped unscathed.

While "That's What Friends are For," played on the radio, I continued searching for a topic.

Listening to the song, I pondered the idea of writing about perfect strangers. Then I started thinking about the show,

"Perfect Strangers," and I got sidetracked.

Oh, Balki Bartokomous, when will you ever learn?

As I threw in a tape of last week's episode of "Friends," I finally realized what makes David Povill tick. The most important thing in my life is, obviously, my car. My baby's got some balls on her!

Seriously though, what I figured out is that the greatest "diversion" in life is your friends, and I'd like to publicly thank all of mine for being so funny, so nice, so obnoxious, so drunk, so hungry and so not-as-good as Foolsball.

And to my best friend, I want to thank you for being everything I ever wanted in a girlfriend and more. Everyone says college is the greatest time of your life, and you guys are the reasons why. Yah, dood!

Dave Povill can be reached at pfunk@email.unc.edu.

BIZBUZZ ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

Too Much of a Not-So-Good Thing

The flop of the recently released "Gossip" poses the question: Have filmmakers made one too many teeny-bopper movies? Even with the help of "Dawson's Creek" heartthrob Joshua Jackson, this film made less in its first week than Jackson's other (maybe too) recent movie "Skulls" did in its third. "Gossip" earned only \$2.3 million and

came in a dismal 12th place in its opening weekend.

Ever since the surprise success of another "Dawson's" star's movie, "Varsity Blues," moviemakers have saturated the market with flicks aimed at the Oxy-using, Britney Spears-wannabe set. Already this year, "Down to You," "Drive Me Crazy," "Here on Earth" and "Whatever It Takes" have come out with little success.

I guess even 14-year-olds have their standards. Or is it just that their allowance only goes so far?

Can't Always Keep It in the Family

As if Angelina Jolie hasn't gotten enough press recently, first she plays an Oscar-winning role in "Girl

Interrupted." Then she grosses out viewers everywhere by showing a little too much sisterly affection for her brother, James, at the Academy Awards. Now come rumors that she married her current beau, Billy-Bob Thornton, last week. This would be the fifth marriage for Thornton and the second for Jolie. His last marriage ended with allegations of spousal abuse. Wonder what her brother has to say about that?

More Love in La La Land

Speaking of interesting couples, several other Hollywood love things recently have gone public. Carson Daly discounted rumors of a relationship with Christina Aguilera when he announced on "The View" that he is now involved

with "American Pie" star Tara Reid. Edward Norton and Salma Hayek have also been dating for several months. Norton may seem like the boy-next-door, but his choice in women (Courtney Love and now Hayek) says otherwise.

And Mario Lopez may not be A.C. Slater from "Saved by the Bell" anymore, but he doesn't have too much to complain about. His latest girlfriend is former beauty queen and current Dorito's girl Ali Landry.

Today Spencer, Tomorrow the World

Spencer, North Carolina is hardly a mecca for entertainment, but it served its purpose for MTV's "Wanna Be a VJ" contest. Several weeks ago, MTV pro-

ducers went to Spencer to audition for the competition and choose two finalists. On Saturday, viewers helped to pick the winner of the contest. Coming in a close second place was a Carolina girl, Shannon Wiseman, 21, a UNC-Charlotte student. Despite having a lead for the entire competition, Shannon lost after the final round. What did her opponent, 20-year-old pizza delivery boy Raymond Munns, do to pull out his surprising victory? He said he would rather be a VJ than stop world hunger, and he called Wiseman a stereotypical Barbie doll. I guess Jesse Camp wasn't politically incorrect enough for MTV viewers.

Compiled by Lindsey Zuckerman

INTERVIEW

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is which." Myer, who confirmed that he had thrown a party for his girlfriend the previous night, said "Road Trip" had been the best movie experience of his growing career, replacing last year's "Go."
"On location we were forced to get to know each other, so I got to know all the guys well," he said. "It was also my first protagonist role, but I really didn't feel any pressure because I just wanted to make it funny."
As the effects of the sugar-and-cream-filled coffee in my grasp started to wear off and Myer was teleported to another

anxious group of journalists, the feature-film newcomer of the cast, Paulo Constanzo, jumped into the room sporting a worn-out D.A.R.E. shirt.

"I feel the love at this table," he said as he sat down to welcome questions. "So, did you guys really, really like the movie or what?"

As most of us agreed, Constanzo showed his potential to be the coolest interview by explaining in his best words what he and his character, Reuben, had in common.

"People like Reuben and I are misunderstood by most of society because I really believe that I am on a different wavelength than most people I talk to," he said. "Not higher or lower, but just different."

As he nervously scratched his back and placed a hair on one journalist's recorder, Constanzo revealed that he had recently smoked some herb with his father, an artist.

"This is going to sound like such a

stoner confession, but do you know how your mind delves into different things while you are stoned?" he said. "If you're stoned, you would be like totally dwelling on that hair like 'Whoa, I wonder if I have a lot of back hairs like that.'"

The next two interviews, while not as revelatory as the previous one, did highlight the cast's two major female members, Rachel Blanchard (TV's "Clueless") and Amy Smart ("Varsity Blues").

Both girls fawned over Green and his comic abilities. Especially Blanchard, who said that Green's scenes with a small white rooster were her favorite.

"That was hilarious because he did one scene where the mouse actually went to the bathroom in his mouth," she said. "He was really a calm and straightforward guy off-screen."

Smart, who appeared this week in the TV miniseries "The '70s," fielded questions about her topless scene with Myer.

ROAD TRIP

From Page 5

long years). Seriously, Green proves that he needs his own starring role.

The only fault in "Trip" lies in its plot, which is paper-thin but serves the purpose of creating random situations that sometimes go over the top.

But Phillips could become the next John Hughes (of "The Breakfast Club") if he keeps pumping out movies that bring the young crowd into theaters over the summer, a time when they have nothing to do but laugh and watch movies.

So if you're looking for a movie that doesn't require a lot of thinking and promises laughs a-plenty, this "Trip" is one worth taking.

The Arts & Entertainment Editor can be reached at artsdesk@unc.edu.



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